

Juniper Institute for Young Writers

Teacher or Guidance Counselor Recommendation Form

To the recommender: Due to a rolling admission policy, please return this form as soon as possible, either to the applicant in a signed & sealed envelope OR by mail directly to the Institute. If the student is applying for a scholarship or for priority status, we must receive this letter by **March 1, 2012**. Mail to: Juniper Institute for Young Writers, c/o University Conference Services, 918 Campus Center, 1 Campus Center Way, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003-9272.

This portion to be completed by student and student's parent or guardian. Please print or type.

Name of student: _____

Under the provisions of the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974, the parents of students under the age of eighteen may decide whether letters of reference written at the request of the student are to be held confidential or made available for personal inspection. If the student is eighteen years of age or over, then the decision is the student's. Check one of the following statements and provide both signatures in the spaces designated so that the recommender will be advised of your choice.

_____ Confidential File. I grant permission for this letter of recommendation to be held confidential by the Juniper Institute for Young Writers

_____ Open File. I retain the choice of having this letter of reference available to me.

(signature of parent or guardian)

(signature of student)

This portion to be completed by teacher or guidance counselor. Please print or type.

The Juniper Institute for Young Writers is an extraordinary nine days of creative writing workshops, seminars, studio courses, and readings. The student listed above is applying to our program; a letter of recommendation is an important part of their application. Please provide detailed and candid responses to the following questions, and please feel free to include any additional information you think relevant. We take your recommendation very seriously. We rely on the information you provide in order to make responsible admissions decisions and offer a meaningful experience to students. Feel free to attach an additional sheet if necessary. Thank you!

1. The Juniper Institute is an in-depth, rigorous week of writing and thinking about writing. *Please describe the applicant and the qualities he or she would bring to an intensive summer writing institute (workshops, seminars, studio courses and readings).*

(continued)

2. The Institute welcomes participants of diverse backgrounds, life experiences, and writing styles who have completed their sophomore, junior, or senior years of high school. While the program is selective, we are not looking exclusively for very experienced writers—we are interested in creative, dedicated students who are committed to exploring the creative process, meeting peers with similar interests, and being exposed to exciting new ideas. *Please comment on the student's abilities, creativity, and maturity.*

3. Through small writing workshops, studio courses, and other activities, the Institute creates a supportive community of young writers committed to sharing and receiving feedback on their writing. *Please comment on the student's dedication to growth and learning, as well as his/her ability to receive and provide constructive feedback.*

4. The format of the Juniper Institute requires that students work well with one another in the classroom and in a range of social situations including—for most participants—dorm life. *Please comment on the student's social maturity and interpersonal skills, including how you expect they might adapt to a nine-day residence-hall living experience.*

	Exceptional	High	Moderate	Poor
Maturity & Respectfulness				
Inter-personal skills				
Creativity & Ability				
Enthusiasm & Willingness				

Name of recommender _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Position _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

Email _____